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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
IN REPLY REFER TO:
7330-7/1700A3

Honorable Harry Reid
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Reid:

This is in reply to your letter of February 1, 1993, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

You are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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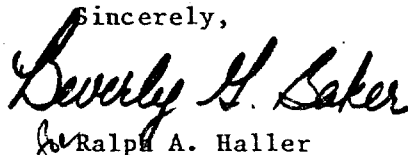
Honorable Harry Reid

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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their concerns when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,



for Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:
Notice
Order
Discussion paper

cc:
Chief, PRBureau
Chief, LM&M Divison
Docket Files, Room 222
P&P Branch File (Pink)

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LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300438	02/08/93	02/01/93	02/19/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Harry Reid	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
personal view	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/mand 2-10-93			
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REMARKS:

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HARRY REID
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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2803

PRB
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February 1, 1993

Mr. Steve Klitzman
Associate Director
Office of Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
Room 808
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Klitzman:

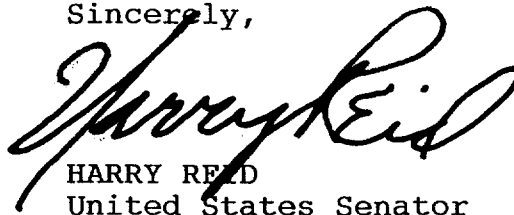
I am writing concerning PR Docket 92-235, which would take away certain radio frequencies presently assigned to radio controlled model airplane users.

This move could be very costly to radio controlled airplane operators in a number of ways. For instance, many have bought radio systems based on these frequencies, and it could cost them hundreds of dollars to have the radios converted to the narrower group of frequencies.

The integrity of radio frequencies assigned to model users is more than a monetary concern; it is also an important safety concern. The proposed restructuring inserts two new frequencies between those presently assigned for modeling use and commercial users. The net result is that there will be a user, higher in power, transmitting only 2.5 KHz away from many of the modelers' 72 MHz and 75 MHz frequencies. A 10-15 pound model airplane flying at 75 miles per hour is dangerous if its radio signals are interfered with. Even if nobody is hurt by such interference, a major crash can cost the modeler \$300 to \$3000 and hundreds of hours of building time.

I urge you to reconsider this move, and not endanger the safety of model airplane users. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,


HARRY REID
United States Senator

HMR:drc

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